

### Amendments to the Claims

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Amended) A purified nucleic acid molecule comprising a mammalian Hypertension-Related Calcium-Regulated Gene (HCaRG), having the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 1, or its complementary strand.
- 3-5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Amended) A purified nucleic acid molecule comprising a mammalian HCaRG, which has the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 3.
7. (Previously Amended) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 2.
8. (Previously Amended) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 24.
9. (Original) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 7.
- 10 (Currently Amended) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 8.
11. (Currently Amended) A purified nucleic acid of at least 12 nucleotides in length that hybridizes to a nucleic acid of a calcium-sensing cell and with SEQ ID No. 1, SEQ ID No. 3, or a complementary sequence thereof acid molecule in an *in situ* hybridization assay performed in a cell at 60°C in 4x SSC and 50% formamide, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises SEQ ID No. 1, SEQ ID No. 3, a sequence complementary to SEQ ID No. 1, or a sequence complementary to SEQ ID No. 3.
12. (Original) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 11 which is an amplification primer.

13. (Original) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 11, which is a hybridization probe.
14. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 2 and a carrier.
15. (Previously Amended) A composition of matter comprising the cDNA or mRNA of claim 24 and a carrier.
16. (Previously Amended) A composition of matter comprising the cDNA or mRNA of claim 25 and a carrier.
17. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 7 and a carrier.
18. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 8 and a carrier.
19. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 11 and a carrier.
20. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 12 and a carrier.
21. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 13 and a carrier.
22. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 9 and a carrier.
23. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of 10 and a carrier.
24. (Currently Amended) An isolated HCaRG cDNA or mRNA ~~that encodes SEQ ID NO: 2~~ comprising the open reading frame of claim 35.
25. (Currently Amended) An isolated HCaRG cDNA or mRNA ~~that encodes SEQ ID NO: 4~~

comprising the open reading frame of claim 41.

26. (Previously Added) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 25.
27. (Previously Added) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 26.
28. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 25 and a carrier.
29. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 27 and a carrier.
30. (Previously Added) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 6.
31. (Previously Added) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 30.
32. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 6 and a carrier.
33. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 30 and a carrier.
34. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 31 and a carrier.
35. (Previously Added) An isolated open reading frame encoding SEQ ID NO: 2.
36. (Previously Added) A recombinant vector comprising the open reading frame of claim 35.
37. (Previously Added) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 36.

38. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the open reading frame of claim 35 and a carrier.
39. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 36 and a carrier.
40. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 37 and a carrier.
41. (Previously Added) An isolated open reading frame encoding SEQ ID NO: 4.
42. (Previously Added) A recombinant vector comprising the open reading frame of claim 41.
43. (Previously Added) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 42.
44. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the open reading frame of claim 41 and a carrier.
45. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 42 and a carrier.
46. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 43 and a carrier.
47. (Previously Added) The nucleic acid of claim 11 wherein the nucleic acid has a sequence that is perfectly complementary to SEQ ID No. 1, SEQ ID No. 3, or a complementary sequence thereof.
48. (Previously Added) The nucleic acid of claim 47 which is an amplification primer.
49. (Previously Added) The nucleic acid of claim 47 which is a hybridization probe.

50. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 47 and a carrier.

51. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 48 and a carrier.

52. (Previously Added) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 49 and a carrier.

53-58. (Canceled)